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Lynn Ashby

**From:** "Lynn Ashby" <plashby@msn.com>  
**To:** <mailmaster@cc.state.az.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 22, 2006 10:42 PM  
**Subject:** DPV2 Comments for Line Siting Hearing on June 26, 2006

To Chairman Jeff Hatch-Miller, Commissioners Mayes, Mundell, Spitzer and Gleason,

Thank you for allowing me to express my vehement objection to the proposed Devers-Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project that Southern California Edison wants to construct across the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. Please include my comments in the record for the Line Siting Hearing on June 26, 2006.

Because the primary route for the DPV2 cuts through the Kofa Wilderness, it is totally unacceptable for several reasons. The right-of-way through the Kofa is prime desert bighorn sheep and desert tortoise habitat and a second power transmission line will fragment and reduce the quality and quantity of all habitats in the refuge. More than 400 acres of the refuge will be affected as construction vehicles travel along the first line's ROW and then across to the new ROW. The resulting negative impact to plant resources will, in such an arid environment, last for a century or more. Major soil disturbances at each of the 85 tower sites during construction will promote establishment of invasive plant species, already a problem in Arizona. The wide corridor between the two ROW's, approximately 560 feet, will be an open invitation for illegal off-road vehicle use; again a problem for desert tortoises as ORV's are a significant factor in tortoise mortality. Lastly, when the Kofa Wilderness was created in 1990, after the first line was installed, it specifically **excluded** a right-of-way for a second line across the Kofa. Since this is the primary route proposed for the DPV2, it should not even be under consideration.

There is also the question of economic impact to Arizona's residents. Phoenix is the fifth largest city in the nation and is growing by thousands of people each year. The Palo Verde Nuclear Plant has been shut down several times in recent months and APS is seeking rate increases with alarming frequency. Why is sending Arizona's energy to California a good deal for Arizona? And just this week, Southern California Edison decided to shut down the Mohave Generating Station rather than make court-mandated improvements. Evidently, SCE is not too concerned about its ability to meet its customers' energy demands.

I went to Southern Cal-Ed's DPV2 open house in April. I looked at the maps and graphs and I debated with their representatives. I pointed out all the ways that the DPV2 will be detrimental to the state I was born in and call home. And I asked them how their project would **in any way** benefit Arizona. We generate the power, we destroy our landscape, we destroy sensitive habitat and California gets cheap power. Their answer---California sends us gasoline!

This is a bad project. Please stop it now.

Sincerely,  
Lynn Ashby  
Scottsdale, AZ

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